

perfect pitch bears swing to win

n epic season was in store for the baseball team this year. With many returning sophomores continuing their second round on the team, the Bears were confident in their abilities to bring about success. A positive sense of closeness and teamwork was spread far and wide as the returning players welcomed fifteen new freshmen to the field. The Bears were coached by Ken Jackson, with assistant coaches Justin Hay, Austin Biggs, and Wil McDowell.

Jackson looked forward to working with the same young men he had the pleasure of getting to know the previous year. "We have an experienced squad with a lot of returning players," Jackson said. "We feel like we are going to carry that sophomore leadership and ride it a little bit and, hopefully, we will have a successful season because of it."

Looking ahead, Jackson said he feels his team "is very much playoff worthy. I think we have got the pieces, but our jobs as coaches is to put those pieces together and figure out what gives us the best chance of winning offensively, defensively and pitchingwise and I think as the year goes on I think we will figure it out and I think this team's got a good opportunity to be in the playoffs." It was not difficult for the new team members to get the swing of things and fall into a winning routine. Uniting as a team helped the committed athletes achieve the victory they so painstakingly strived for throughout the season.

by Madison VanNess







above: Tucker Watts, Lane Gordon, Coby Gilbert, Gage Kiser, Aaron Ragsdale, DJ Lewis, Ethan Campo; second row: Landon Stewart, Will Ford, Nathan Yennie, Logan Larrimore, Brandon Drury, Jace DeLee, Reid Havard, Rob James; third row: Matthew Graves, Paco Bello, Britt Netterville, Jacob McDaniel, Cody Ellzey, Daren Smith, Kyle Dillard, Trey Forsythe, Matt Caulfied, Manager; fourth row: Jack Hilton, Brendon Baker, Tyler White, Jaydon Cowan, Michael Buck, Keith McKigney, Rigell Robinson, Easton Porter, Zach Dearman



left: Nathan Yennie throws the runner out at home; opposite page: Tyler White fires the ball to second; top left: Trey Forsythe catches a line drive; above: Daren Smith focuses on the batter.